

From: Clancy, Carolyn
Sent: 6 Nov 2017 12:46:00 -0400
To: Law, Cassandra M.
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Congratulations on your appointment to Under Secretary for Health

Thank you

Carolyn M. Clancy, MD
Executive in Charge
Veterans Health Administration
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20420
(b)(6)

From: "Law, Cassandra M." <Cassandra.Law@va.gov>
Date: Monday, November 6, 2017 at 12:43 PM
To: Department of Veterans Affairs <carolyn.clancy@va.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Congratulations on your appointment to Under Secretary for Health

Very well. We have extensive IBs and history from Lisa Freeman, Palo Alto and the VISN. I'll get the history for background.

Cassie

From: Clancy, Carolyn
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2017 8:39:27 AM
To: Law, Cassandra M.
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Congratulations on your appointment to Under Secretary for Health

Do you know this individual?

Clearly a long story — I am most worried about the last sentence

Carolyn M. Clancy, MD
Executive in Charge
Veterans Health Administration
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW

Washington, DC 20420

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@gmail.com>

Date: Monday, November 6, 2017 at 12:10 PM

To: Department of Veterans Affairs <carolyn.clancy@va.gov>, "Shulkin, David J., MD" <David.Shulkin@va.gov> (b)(6)@gmail.com>

Cc: "Shropshire, Saundrea (HSGAC)" <Saundrea_Shropshire@hsgac.senate.gov>, "tony mcclain@vetaff.senate.gov" <tony_mcclain@vetaff.senate.gov>, "Mallison, William"

<william.mallison@mail.house.gov>, "varoi@mail.house.gov" <varoi@mail.house.gov>,

"patrick magnuson@appro.senate.gov" <patrick_magnuson@appro.senate.gov> (b)(6)

(b)(6)@bellsouth.net>, (b)(6)@mwe.com> (b)(6)pogo.org"

(b)(6)pogo.org>, "Coleman, Brandon" <Brandon.Coleman3@va.gov> (b)(6)

(b)(6)@gmail.com> (b)(6)@washpost.com> (b)(6)@washpost.com>,

(b)(6)@washpost.com> (b)(6)@usatoday.com>, (b)(6)

(b)(6)@cbs.com> (b)(6)@bayareanewsgroup.com> (b)(6)@bayareanewsgroup.com>,

(b)(6)@iava.org> (b)(6)@cv4a.org> (b)(6)@cv4a.org>,

(b)(6)@foxnews.com> (b)(6)@foxnews.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congratulations on your appointment to Under Secretary for Health

Dear Dr. Clancy,

Congratulations on your appointment as Under Secretary for Health at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

On June 16, 2015, as the interim Under Secretary for Health, you signed the attached memorandum authorizing the expenditure of taxpayer dollars for LEAN training, a systematic method for waste minimization. (b)(6)

(b)(6)

You served as the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Quality, Safety, and Value (ADUSH QSV). The VA Functional Organization Manual v2.0a of 2014, defined the missions, functions, tasks, and authorities of the ADUSH QSV as being "committed to... ensuring... the lowest expenditure of resources." Among the functions and activities of the ADUSH QSV is to "foster a culture that acts with integrity to achieve accountability."

On September 22, 2015, you testified to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee "to discuss ways that Congress and VA can further encourage Federal employees to come forward with their concerns regarding quality;

patient safety; and waste, fraud, and abuse.” Your written statement asserted that “the underlying purpose of whistleblower protection rules is to encourage the candid disclosure of information about problems, so that deficiencies are corrected and unsafe or unlawful behavior is quickly corrected.”

In October 2015, I blew the whistle directly to the Secretary of the VA on the (b)(6)

(b)(6)

On April 4, 2016, I blew the whistle on this (b)(6)

(b)(6)

On March 15, 2017, you testified before the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, addressing “the Department of Veterans Affairs’ efforts to improve the issues identified by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) that placed VA health care on the 2015 GAO High Risk List.” Regarding the GAO’s determination of “inadequate oversight and accountability,” you cited a “significant organizational transformation that aligned several key offices... led by a newly established Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity.” The VA Functional Organization Manual v4.0 of 2017 specifies that the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity “synthesizes information from internal and external oversight activities to promote a strong ethical and just culture that builds trust and confidence in Veterans health care.” Among the assigned functions of this newly created office are 1) “Conduct internal oversight activities (investigations, audits, risk assessment, and business compliance) in accordance with VHA policy and industry standards,” and 2) “Demonstrate VHA commitment to address high risk areas identified by GAO.”

The GAO 2017 High Risk Report 17-317, issued February 15, 2017, Managing Risks and Improving VA Health Care, stated that “[s]ince designating Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care as a high-risk area in 2015, we continue to be concerned about VA’s ability to ensure its resources are being used cost-effectively and efficiently to improve veterans’ timely access to health care, and to ensure the quality and safety of that care.”

I was the original source of the information on the (b)(6)

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On September 18, 2017, you testified before the House Committee on Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, that the VA is “committed to always protecting... whistleblowers from retaliation. VA has and will continue to take immediate action when responding to whistleblower concerns at any VA facility across the country.” In your September 22, 2015 testimony you stated that “[w]e depend on these employees to be vigilant about actual and potential sources of harm to patients, and to voice their concerns if a patients’ safety is at risk. In fact, providing safe, high-quality health care is not possible unless caregivers voice their concerns.”

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In 2007, you authored an article entitled “Emergency Pharmacists: A New Road to Medication Safety,” in which you stated that:

Preventing medication errors, which account for nearly 20% of adverse events overall and affect about 4% of all hospital stays, has become a high-profile goal among national and international patient safety advocates, healthcare organizations, and healthcare providers (IOM, 2000).

Today, significant progress is underway in hospitals to comply with national patient safety goals set by the Joint Commission to reduce the risk of medication-related errors. Requirements include labeling all medications...

While this effort moves forward, momentum is also building to reduce medication errors in an especially high-risk environment — hospital emergency departments (EDs). Hospital EDs had the highest rate of preventable adverse events in the clinical environments studied by the Institute of Medicine, with a potential of 3.8 million annual events thought to be preventable, according to the 2006 IOM report, Preventing Medication Errors.

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Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 211.134, Drug Product Inspection, specifies that “Packaged and labeled products shall be examined during finishing operations to provide assurance that containers and packages in the lot have the correct label.” The FDA Guidance for Industry on Repackaging of Drugs by Pharmacies and Outsourcing Facilities, specifies that “Repackaged drug products are not exempt from the provisions of the FD&C Act related to the production of drugs. Repackaged drug products are subject to the misbranding provisions of the FD&C Act, concerning current good manufacturing practice.”

Pharmacy Errors: Swallowing the Wrong Pill, ABC News Radio, November 23, 2011:
Anecdotal evidence suggests that this problem is more common than believed, especially since there are various ways to fill prescriptions, including in-store and online. But there’s no formal method used to track pharmacy errors, according to Dr. Carolyn Clancy, director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

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Don't Let Medicines Cause Harm, by Carolyn M. Clancy, M.D., December 7, 2010:

Make sure your medicine is what the doctor ordered. Many drugs look alike and have names that sound alike. Check with your doctor or pharmacist to be sure you have the right medicine. If you are getting a refill and the medicine looks different, ask the pharmacist about it.

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Common Problems Patients Face in the Hospital - Understand your hospital risks and ask these vital questions -- to keep those risks in check, by R. Morgan Griffin, WebMD, 2007:

Hospital Risk No. 1: Medication Errors

"Far and away, the most serious hospital risk is a medication error," says Carolyn Clancy, MD, director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in Rockville, Md. "All it takes is for someone to miss a decimal point and you could have a life-threatening mistake."

Bar code tech and eMAR significantly reduce medication errors, by Mike Miliard, Healthcare IT news, June 14, 2010:

"Medication errors in hospitals are a very serious issue and can often lead to patient harm," said AHRQ Director Carolyn M. Clancy, MD. "The good news from this study is that using bar code technology and an electronic medication administration record together can be an important intervention to achieve medication safety."

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necessary for patients and clinicians alike to be aware of the factors that make for safe use of the drug."

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I wish you the best of luck in your new position, and truly hope that you can improve the quality of healthcare delivered to Veterans.

Respectfully,

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Sent: 6 Nov 2017 12:39:27 -0400
To: Law, Cassandra M.
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Congratulations on your appointment to Under Secretary for Health
Attachments: Clancy.pdf
Importance: High

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I wish you the best of luck in your new position, and truly hope that you can improve the quality of healthcare delivered to Veterans.

Respectfully,

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Page 20 of 76

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(6)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 21 of 76

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(b)(6)

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Page 22 of 76

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Page 23 of 76

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Page 24 of 76

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(6)

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From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Sent: 10 Mar 2017 13:29:44 -0500
To: Bevins, Debi
Cc: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.; Clancy, Carolyn; Czarnecki, Tammy; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Culpepper, Michael; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Hyduke, Barbara; Rasmussen, Karen M. (b)(6) (b)(6) OIG); DJS
Subject: RE: Whistleblower Disclosure
Attachments: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Hi Debi,

The current status of (b)(6) original inquiry in February (b)(6)

(b)(6)

All the best,
Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity (10E1)

Veterans Health Administration
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Room 638
Washington, DC 20420
(202) 461-7571
Gerard.cox@va.gov

Executive Assistant: Ms. Sharice Smith-Lewis (sharice.smith-lewis@va.gov or (202) 461-1758)

The Office of Integrity's mission is to strengthen trust and confidence in Veterans health care by fostering an ethical and just culture and by integrating information from oversight activities.

From: Bevins, Debi
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 9:59 AM
To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Cc: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.; Clancy, Carolyn; Czarnecki, Tammy; Bevins, Debi; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Culpepper, Michael; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Hyduke, Barbara; Rasmussen, Karen M. (b)(6) (b)(6) OIG); DJS
Subject: Whistleblower Disclosure

Gerry

Looping you and others on (b)(6) current email/allegations to the Secretary. Do we have any current status from his original inquiry in February? Thanks!

Debi Bevins
Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)
Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW
Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420
T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462



From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 9:15 AM
To: Shulkin, David J., MD; lynn_tieerdsma@thune.senate.gov; jordan.stoick@mail.house.gov; Adam_Reece@vetaff.senate.gov
Cc: (b)(6)@who.eop.gov; (b)(6)@blackhillsfox.com; kyle_brosnan@hsgac.senate.gov; (b)(6)@lee.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Whistleblower Disclosure

Hello Mr. Secretary:

I am sending you this correspondence to inform your office about the (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Thank you Mr. Secretary for your time and consideration!

(b)(6)

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 8:38 AM

To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.; Clancy, Carolyn; Czarnecki, Tammy; Bevins, Debi; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Culpepper, Michael; Flanz, Meghan Serwin

Cc: Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Hyduke, Barbara; Rasmussen, Karen M.

Subject: FW: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Good morning to all,

FYI – OIG has decided to open an investigation into these allegations about the (b)(6) The Audit & Evaluations Division will be doing the work.

In response to Dr. Alaigh's question (in a separate email string): yes, OIG would appreciate our sharing the results of the review that (b)(6) We will facilitate putting the VHA POC in contact with OIG.

Best regards,
Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity (10E1)

Veterans Health Administration
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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 8:21 AM

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

We will be taking the case (b)(6) will reach out to Debi later today.

(b)(6)

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:32 AM

To: (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Thanks again, (b)(6) I'll see you at Tech World at 10.

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity (10E1)

Veterans Health Administration

810 Vermont Avenue, NW

Room 638

Washington, DC 20420

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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:31 AM

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

I spoke with (b)(6) He was out of town yesterday. We will have a decision today.

(b)(6)

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:54 PM

To: (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Great – thanks, (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:50 PM

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Will get back to you by the AM.

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:05 PM

To: (b)(6)

Subject: FW: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

H (b)(6)

This came up at our morning meeting with the USH today. I was asked to follow up with OIG.

Although it may be too early to say, can you tell me whether OIG plans to open a case in this matter?

Thanks,
Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity (10E1)

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-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 05:22 PM Central Standard Time

To: Bevins, Debi

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Ms. Bevins, thanks for the e-mail. We are in the process of reviewing (b)(6) allegations and will let you know. Please let me know if you have any questions in the interim.

(b)(6)

Inspector General
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)
Washington, DC 20420

E-mail: (b)(6)
Phone:
Fax:
Webpage: www.va.gov/oig



This e-mail message and all attachments may contain confidential information intended solely for the addressee(s). If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any reading, dissemination, distribution, copying, forwarding or other use of this message or its attachments is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete this message and all copies and backups thereof.

From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Bevins, Debi; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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If you can provide guidance on whether the OIG is/or should be engaged that would be great. Upon your response, we will determine next course of action in responding and fact finding. Thank you!

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From: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:11 PM
To: (b)(6)@who.eop.gov; Shulkin, David J., MD, (b)(6)@osc.gov
Cc: Adam_Reece@vetaff.senate.gov; Hodnette, Jon (Jon.Hodnette@mail.house.gov);
kyle_brosnan@hsgac.senate.gov (b)(6)@amvets.org (b)(6)@armytimes.com (b)(6)@cv4a.org;
(b)(6)@legion.org; betsy_dietz@isakson.senate.gov; brian_downey@hsgac.senate.gov;
contact@marcorubio.com; carolyn_moffa@paul.senate.gov; courtney_asbill@cruz.senate.gov;
(b)(6)@militarytimes.com; caroline.ingram@mail.house.gov (b)(6)@iava.org;
(b)(6)@disabledveterans.org; (b)(6)@cv4a.org (b)(6)@legion.org (b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6) (OIG), (b)(6)@pva.org (b)(6)@vva.org (b)(6)@vva.org (b)(6)
(b)(6)@vva.org; juliana.heerschap@mail.house.gov; keith_ashdown@hsgac.senate.gov;
kristen.shatynski@mail.house.gov; larry.brady@mail.house.gov (b)(6)@roa.org;
(b)(6)@studentveterans.org; laurel_saukai@vetaff.senate.gov; larry.brady@mail.house.gov;
(b)(6)@roa.org; mike.ricci@mail.house.gov (b)(6)
Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)
(b)(6)

Importance: High

Hello Mr. President:

I am sending this whistleblower disclosure to your office due to the urgent need for executive intervention. VA is planning on declaring (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

It is for these reasons I have attached a formal request for your office to intervene in this matter.

Please feel free to contact me, if your office has any questions about this matter.

Thank you for your commitment to our Nation's Veterans!

Respectfully:

(b)(6)

From

(b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 4:02 PM

To: Shulkin, David J., MD; Gibson, Sloan

Cc: Young, Steven W.; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Jacobs, Joshua D.; Heiman, Ryan, MS; Field, Annette

Subject: Heads Up: (b)(6)

Good day leadership.

I wanted to give you a heads up on an important issue I just discovered today.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Page 34 of 76

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(6)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 35 of 76

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(6)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 36 of 76

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(6)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Sent: 24 Feb 2017 08:38:28 -0500
To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.;Young, Steven W.;Clancy, Carolyn;Czarnecki, Tammy;Bevins, Debi;Wright, Vivieca (Simpson);Culpepper, Michael;Flanz, Meghan Serwin
Cc: Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.;Hyduke, Barbara;Rasmussen, Karen M.
Subject: FW: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

Good morning to all,

FYI – OIG has decided to open an investigation into these allegations about the (b)(6). The Audit & Evaluations Division will be doing the work.

In response to Dr. Alaigh's question (in a separate email string): yes, OIG would appreciate our sharing the results of the review that (b)(6) conducted of a sample of the letters in question. We will facilitate putting the VHA POC in contact with OIG.

Best regards,

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity (10E1)

Veterans Health Administration

810 Vermont Avenue, NW

Room 638

Washington, DC 20420

(202) 461-7571

Gerard.cox@va.gov

Executive Assistant: Ms. Sharice Smith-Lewis (sharice.smith-lewis@va.gov or (202) 461-1758)

The Office of Integrity's mission is to strengthen trust and confidence in Veterans health care by fostering an ethical and just culture and by integrating information from oversight activities.

From: (b)(6) (OIG)

Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 8:21 AM

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

We will be taking the case (b)(6) will reach out to Debi later today.

(b)(6)

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:32 AM

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Thanks again, (b)(6) I'll see you at Tech World at 10.

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity (10E1)

Veterans Health Administration

810 Vermont Avenue, NW

Room 638

Washington, DC 20420

(202) 461-7571

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Executive Assistant: Ms. Sharice Smith-Lewis (sharice.smith-lewis@va.gov or (202) 461-1758)

The Office of Integrity's mission is to strengthen trust and confidence in Veterans health care by fostering an ethical and just culture and by integrating information from oversight activities.

From (b)(6) (OIG)

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:31 AM

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

I spoke with (b)(6). He was out of town yesterday. We will have a decision today.

(b)(6)

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:54 PM
To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)
(b)(6)

Great – thanks (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:50 PM
To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Will get back to you by the AM.

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:05 PM
To: (b)(6) (OIG)
Subject: FW: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Hi (b)(6)

This came up at our morning meeting with the USH today. I was asked to follow up with OIG.

Although it may be too early to say, can you tell me whether OIG plans to open a case in this matter?

Thanks,

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity (10E1)

Veterans Health Administration

810 Vermont Avenue, NW

Room 638

Washington, DC 20420

(202) 461-7571

Gerard.cox@va.gov

Executive Assistant: Ms. Sharice Smith-Lewis (sharice.smith-lewis@va.gov or (202) 461-1758)

The Office of Integrity's mission is to strengthen trust and confidence in Veterans health care by fostering an ethical and just culture and by integrating information from oversight activities.

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6) (OIG)

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 05:22 PM Central Standard Time

To: Bevins, Debi

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Ms. Bevins, thanks for the e-mail. We are in the process of reviewing (b)(6) allegations and will let you know. Please let me know if you have any questions in the interim.

(b)(6)

Inspector General

Department of Veterans Affairs

810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)

Washington, DC 20420

E-mail: (b)(6)

Phone:

Fax:

Webpage: www.va.gov/oig

cid:image001.png@01D1E801.4AA4F130This e-mail message and all attachments may contain confidential information intended solely for the addressee(s). If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any reading, dissemination, distribution, copying, forwarding or other use of this message or its attachments is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete this message and all copies and backups thereof.

From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Bevins, Debi; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

. If you can provide guidance on whether the OIG is/or should be engaged that would be great. Upon your response, we will determine next course of action in responding and fact finding. Thank you!

Debi Bevins

Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)

Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW

Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420

T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462

From (b)(6) HEC

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:11 PM

To: (b)(6) @who.eop.gov; Shulkin, David J., MD (b)(6) @osc.gov

Cc: Adam_Reece@vetaff.senate.gov; Hodnette, Jon

(Jon.Hodnette@mail.house.gov); kyle_brosnan@hsgac.senate.gov;

(b)(6) @amvets.org; (b)(6) @armytimes.com; (b)(6) @cv4a.org; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @legion.org; betsy_dietz@isakson.senate.gov;

brian_downey@hsgac.senate.gov; contact@marcorubio.com;

carolyn_moffa@paul.senate.gov; courtney_asbill@cruz.senate.gov;

(b)(6) @militarytimes.com; caroline.ingram@mail.house.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @iava.org; (b)(6) @disabledveterans.org; (b)(6) @cv4a.org;

(b)(6) @legion.org; (b)(6) (b)(6) (OIG) (b)(6) @pva.org;

(b)(6) @vva.org; (b)(6) @vva.org; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @vva.org); juliana.heerschap@mail.house.gov;

keith_asndown@hsgac.senate.gov; kristen.shatynski@mail.house.gov;

larry.brady@mail.house.gov; (b)(6) @roa.org; (b)(6) @studentveterans.org;

laurel_saukai@vetaff.senate.gov; larry.brady@mail.house.gov; (b)(6) @roa.org;

mike.ricci@mail.house.gov; (b)(6)

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

Hello Mr. President:

I am sending this whistleblower disclosure to your office due to the urgent need for executive intervention. (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

It is for these reasons I have attached a formal request for your office to intervene in this matter.

Please feel free to contact me, if your office has any questions about this matter.

Thank you for your commitment to our Nation's Veterans!

Respectfully:

(b)(6)

VA Whistleblower

From: (b)(6) HRC
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 4:02 PM
To: Shulkin, David J., MD; Gibson, Sloan
Cc: Young, Steven W.; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Jacobs, Joshua D.; Heiman, Ryan, MS; Field, Annette
Subject: Heads Up: (b)(6)

Good day leadership.

I wanted to give you a heads up on an important issue I just discovered today.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.
Sent: 23 Feb 2017 20:02:34 -0500
To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.
Cc: Clancy, Carolyn
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

That's fine - but I still want a briefing/update, including the Comms plan on this if possible tomorrow or Monday

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:59 PM Central Standard Time
To: Young, Steven W.; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.
Cc: Clancy, Carolyn
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

I agree with Steve. The basic principle here is the added validity of independent, objective review such as that which OIG would provide. For maximum credibility, we should not rely upon VHA program offices looking at themselves. That was one of GAO's main criticisms when they placed VA on the High Risk List two years ago.

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity
Veterans Health Administration
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Young, Steven W.
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:55 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

I understand that the OIG is opening an investigation. (I don't know how they couldn't based on the visibility). I think it is worth sharing the internal review; they will get that anyway with their investigation.

I'm not one to typically say it is good for the OIG to be involved, but in this instance I think their independent eyes will either validate what we understand to be the case or they will uncover malfeasance which we need to know for both accountability with the staff as well as simply doing right by these veterans.

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 04:48 PM Pacific Standard Time

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Yes- Steve, what do you think

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:46 PM Central Standard Time

To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Good evening again,

I will offer that in the AM. Are you referring to the "findings" of the self audit that (b)(6) conducted in a sample of the letters in question?

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity

Veterans Health Administration

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:37 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Is it worth getting a call together to let him know our findings

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:35 PM Central Standard Time

To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Good evening,

I will let you know in the morning ~~whether~~ whether ~~OIG~~ has decided whether to take this case. The OIG COS had indicated that (b)(6) would make a decision today, and I spoke about this with her in person when I was at their offices this morning - but as of now I still have not received word.

Thanks again,
Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity

Veterans Health Administration

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:20 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: FW: Disclosure to President Trump - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Can we add this too to the agenda please

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 02:33 PM Central Standard Time

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Cc: Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Culpepper, Michael; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Sims, Adrian; Hyduke, Barbara; Bevins, Debi

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Debi Bevins

Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)

Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW

Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420

T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462

From: (b)(6) (OIG)

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 3:23 PM

To: Bevens, Debi

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Ms. Bevens, we will be reviewing (b)(6) allegations. Please let me know if the Department intends to take any further steps at this time. Thanks for your consideration.

(b)(6)

Inspector General

Department of Veterans Affairs

810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)

Washington, DC 20420

(b)(6)

Webpage: www.va.gov/oig

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From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:40 AM

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.; Bevins, Debi

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

There was an article in our clips this AM about this matter.. thanks for your guidance

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Debi Bevins

Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)

Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW

Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420

T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462

From: (b)(6) (OIG)

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 6:22 PM

To: Bevins, Debi

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump

(b)(6)

Ms. Bevins, thanks for the e-mail. We are in the process of reviewing (b)(6) allegations and will let you know. Please let me know if you have any questions in the interim.

(b)(6)

Inspector General

Department of Veterans Affairs

810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)

Washington, DC 20420

(b)(6)

Webpage: www.va.gov/oig

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From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Bevins, Debi; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump

(b)(6)

Importance: High

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

If you can provide guidance on whether the OIG is/or should be engaged that would be great. Upon your response, we will determine next course of action in responding and fact finding. Thank you!

Debi Bevins

Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)

Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW

Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420

T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:11 PM

To: (b)(6)@who.eop.gov; Shulkin, David J., MD; (b)(6)@osc.gov

Cc: (b)(6)@vetaff.senate.gov; Hodnette, Jon (Jon.Hodnette@mail.house.gov);

kyle_brosnan@hsgac.senate.gov; (b)(6)@amvets.org; (b)(6)@armytimes.com;

(b)(6)@cv4a.org; (b)(6)@legion.org);

betsy_dietz@isakson.senate.gov; brian_downey@hsgac.senate.gov;

contact@marcorubio.com; carolyn_moffa@paul.senate.gov;

courtney_asbill@cruz.senate.gov; (b)(6)@militarytimes.com;

caroline.ingram@mail.house.gov; (b)(6)@iava.org;

(b)(6)@disabledveterans.org; (b)(6)@cv4a.org; (b)(6)@legion.org; (b)(6)

(VFW); (b)(6)OIG; (b)(6)@pva.org; (b)(6)@vva.org; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@vva.org; (b)(6)@vva.org);

juliana.heerschap@mail.house.gov; keith_ashdown@hsgac.senate.gov;

kristen.shatynski@mail.house.gov; larry.brady@mail.house.gov; (b)(6)@roa.org;

(b)(6)@studentveterans.org; laurel_saukai@vetaff.senate.gov;

larry.brady@mail.house.gov; (b)(6)@roa.org; mike.ricci@mail.house.gov; Campos,

Rene

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

Page 56 of 76

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(6)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Please feel free to contact me, if your office has any questions about this matter.

Thank you for your commitment to our Nation's Veterans!

Respectfully:

(b)(6)

From (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 4:02 PM

To: Shulkin, David J., MD; Gibson, Sloan

Cc: Young, Steven W.; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Jacobs, Joshua D.; Heiman, Ryan, MS; Field, Annette

Subject: Heads Up (b)(6)

Good day leadership.

I wanted to give you a heads up on an important issue I just discovered today.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



No action was taken by any of the leaders that were notified in the email from September.

Most recently, December 2016, the same employee rais

Attachments:

- image001.jpg@01D28DE9.CE530790 (3538 Bytes)
- image002.png@01D28DE9.CE530790 (10859 Bytes)
- image003.jpg@01D28DE9.CE530790 (3539 Bytes)
- image004.jpg@01D28DE9.CE530790 (3538 Bytes)

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.
Sent: 23 Feb 2017 20:02:34 -0500
To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.
Cc: Clancy, Carolyn
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

That's fine - but I still want a briefing/update, including the Comms plan on this if possible tomorrow or Monday

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:59 PM Central Standard Time
To: Young, Steven W.; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.
Cc: Clancy, Carolyn
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

I agree with Steve. The basic principle here is the added validity of independent, objective review such as that which OIG would provide. For maximum credibility, we should not rely upon VHA program offices looking at themselves. That was one of GAO's main criticisms when they placed VA on the High Risk List two years ago.

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity
Veterans Health Administration
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Young, Steven W.
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:55 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

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I'm not one to typically say it is good for the OIG to be involved, but in this instance I think their independent eyes will either validate what we understand to be the case or they will uncover malfeasance which we need to know for both accountability with the staff as well as simply doing right by these veterans.

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 04:48 PM Pacific Standard Time

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Yes- Steve, what do you think

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:46 PM Central Standard Time

To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Good evening again,

I will offer that in the AM. Are you referring to the "findings" of the self audit that (b)(6) conducted in a sample of the letters in question?

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity
Veterans Health Administration
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:37 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Is it worth getting a call together to let him know our findings

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:35 PM Central Standard Time

To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Good evening,

I will let you know in the morning whether OIG has decided whether to take this case. The OIG COS had indicated that (b)(6) could make a decision today, and I spoke about this with her in person when I was at their offices this morning - but as of now I still have not received word.

Thanks again,
Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity
Veterans Health Administration
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:20 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: FW: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Can we add this too to the agenda please

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 02:33 PM Central Standard Time

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Cc: Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Culpepper, Michael; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Sims, Adrian; Hyduke, Barbara; Bevins, Debi

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

I have narrowed the participants in the email to determine what other agency dept. should be taking the lead at looking into a fact finding on the allegations. (b)(6) which falls under **VHA therefore seek their guidance** as to course of action for fact finding. Thanks!

Debi Bevins

Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)

Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW

Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420

T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462



From: (b)(6) (OIG)

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 3:23 PM

To: Bevins, Debi

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Ms. Bevins, we will be reviewing (b)(6) allegations. Please let me know if the Department intends to take any further steps at this time. Thanks for your consideration.

(b)(6)

Inspector General
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)
Washington, DC 20420

E-mail: (b)(6)
Phone: (b)(6)
Fax: (b)(6)
Webpage: www.va.gov/oig



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From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:40 AM

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Cc: (b)(6) Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latrice R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.; Bevins, Debi

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

There was an article in our clips this AM about this matter.. thanks for your guidance

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)
Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW
Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420
T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462



From: (b)(6) (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 6:22 PM
To: Bevins, Debi
Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Ms. Bevins, thanks for the e-mail. We are in the process of reviewing (b)(6) allegations and will let you know. Please let me know if you have any questions in the interim.

(b)(6)

Inspector General
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)
Washington, DC 20420

E-mail: (b)(6)

Phone:

Fax:

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From: Bevins, Debi

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: (b)(6) (OIG)

Cc: (b)(6) (OIG); Shulkin, David J., MD; Snyder, Robert; Culpepper, Michael; Eitutis, Matthew, MS; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Prince-Wheeler, Latriece R.; Flanz, Meghan Serwin; Bevins, Debi; Alaigh, Poonam; Hyduke, Barbara; Sims, Adrian; Dale, Scott W.

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

If you can provide guidance on whether the OIG is/or should be engaged that would be great. Upon your response, we will determine next course of action in responding and fact finding. Thank you!

Debi Bevins

Director of Client Relations | Office of the Secretary (00V)

Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW

Room 1016 | Washington, DC 20420

T: 202-461-4830 | F: 202-495-5462



From: (b)(6) (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:11 PM

To: (b)(6) @who.eop.gov; Shulkin, David J., MD (b)(6) @osc.gov

Cc: Adam_Reece@vetaff.senate.gov; Hodnette, Jon (Jon.Hodnette@mail.house.gov); kyle_brosnan@hsgac.senate.gov (b)(6) @amvets.org; (b)(6) @armytimes.com; (b)(6) @cv4a.org;

(b)(6) @legion.org; betsy_dietz@isakson.senate.gov;

brian_downey@hsgac.senate.gov; contact@marcorubio.com; carolyn_moffa@paul.senate.gov;

courtney_asbill@cruz.senate.gov; (b)(6) @militarytimes.com; caroline.ingram@mail.house.gov; Jones,

Verna; (b)(6) @java.org (b)(6) @disabledveterans.org; (b)(6) @cv4a.org; (b)(6) @legion.org;

(b)(6) (OIG); (b)(6) @pva.org; (b)(6) @vva.org; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@vva.org); (b)(6)@vva.org); juliana.heerschap@mail.house.gov;
keith_ashdown@hsgac.senate.gov; kristen.shatynski@mail.house.gov; larry.brady@mail.house.gov;
(b)(6)@roa.org; (b)(6)@studentveterans.org; laurel_saukai@vetaff.senate.gov;
larry.brady@mail.house.gov (b)(6)@roa.org; mike.ricci@mail.house.gov; Campos, Rene

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

Hello Mr. President:

(b)(6)

It is for these reasons I have attached a formal request for your office to intervene in this matter.

Please feel free to contact me, if your office has any questions about this matter.

Thank you for your commitment to our Nation's Veterans!

Respectfully:

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) HRC

Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 4:02 PM

To: Shulkin, David J., MD; Gibson, Sloan

Cc: Young, Steven W.; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Jacobs, Joshua D.; Heiman, Ryan, MS; Field, Annette

Subject: Heads Up (b)(6)

Good day leadership.

I wanted to give you a heads up on an important issue I just discovered today.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

My apologies for the error. Comments and questions please.

(b)(6)

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Sent: 23 Feb 2017 19:59:55 -0500
To: Young, Steven W.;Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.
Cc: Clancy, Carolyn
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

I agree with Steve. The basic principle here is the added validity of independent, objective review such as that which OIG would provide. For maximum credibility, we should not rely upon VHA program offices looking at themselves. That was one of GAO's main criticisms when they placed VA on the High Risk List two years ago.

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity
Veterans Health Administration
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Young, Steven W.
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:55 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Cox, Gerard R. VHACO
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

I understand that the OIG is opening an investigation. (I don't know how they couldn't based on the visibility). I think it is worth sharing the internal review; they will get that anyway with their investigation.

I'm not one to typically say it is good for the OIG to be involved, but in this instance I think their independent eyes will either validate what we understand to be the case or they will uncover malfeasance which we need to know for both accountability with the staff as well as simply doing right by these veterans.

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 04:48 PM Pacific Standard Time
To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.
Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Yes- Steve, what do you think

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:46 PM Central Standard Time

To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Good evening again,

I will offer that in the AM. Are you referring to the "findings" of the self audit that

(b)(6)

(b)(6) conducted in a sample of the letters in question?

Gerry

Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity

Veterans Health Administration

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 07:37 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Is it worth getting a call together to let him know our findings

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Gerard R. VHACO

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 06:35 PM Central Standard Time

To: Alaigh, Poonam, M.D.; Young, Steven W.

Cc: Mancari, Ryan; Hyduke, Barbara

Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Good evening,

I will let you know in ~~the morning~~ whether OIG has decided whether to take this case. The OIG COS had indicated that (b)(6) would make a decision today, and I spoke about this with her in person when I was at their offices this morning - but as of now I still have not received word.

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Gerard R. Cox, MD, MHA

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Integrity

Veterans Health Administration

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

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(b)(6)

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Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

I have narrowed the participants in the email to determine what other agency dept. should be taking the lead at looking into a fact finding on the allegations (b)(6) which falls under **VHA therefore seek their guidance** as to course of action for fact finding. Thanks!

Debi Bevins
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Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump - (b)(6)

(b)(6)
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(b)(6)

Inspector General
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)
Washington, DC 20420

E-mail: (b)(6)

Phone:

Fax:

Webpage: www.va.gov/oig



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Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

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Subject: RE: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)
(b)(6)

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Inspector General
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW (50)
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Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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Debi Bevins

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Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Ave, NW

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From: (b)(6) HEC

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:11 PM

To: (b)(6) @who.eop.gov; Shulkin, David J., MD (b)(6) @osc.gov

Cc: Adam_Reece@vetaff.senate.gov; Hodnette, Jon (Jon.Hodnette@mail.house.gov);

kyle_brosnan@hsgac.senate.gov; (b)(6) @amvets.org; (b)(6) armytimes.com (b)(6) @cv4a.org;

(b)(6) @legion.org; betsy_dietz@isakson.senate.gov;

brian_downey@hsgac.senate.gov; contact@marcorubio.com; carolyn_moffa@paul.senate.gov;

courtney_asbill@cruz.senate.gov; (b)(6) @militarytimes.com; caroline.ingram@mail.house.gov; Jones,

Verna (b)(6) @java.org (b)(6) @disabledveterans.org; (b)(6) @cv4a.org (b)(6) @legion.org;

(b)(6) (OIG) (b)(6) @pva.org (b)(6) @vva.org (b)(6)

(b)(6)@vva.org); (b)(6)@vva.org); juliana.heerschap@mail.house.gov;
keith_ashdown@hsgac.senate.gov; kristen.shatynski@mail.house.gov; larry.brady@mail.house.gov;
(b)(6)@roa.org (b)(6)@studentveterans.org; laurel_saukai@vetaff.senate.gov;
larry.brady@mail.house.gov (b)(6)@roa.org; mike.ricci@mail.house.gov; Campos, Rene

Subject: Disclosure to President Trump (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Importance: High

Hello Mr. President:

(b)(6)

Please feel free to contact me, if your office has any questions about this matter.

Thank you for your commitment to our Nation's Veterans!

Respectfully:

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 4:02 PM

To: Shulkin, David J., MD; Gibson, Sloan

Cc: Young, Steven W.; Wright, Vivieca (Simpson); Jacobs, Joshua D.; Heiman, Ryan, MS; Field, Annette

Subject: Heads Up (b)(6)

Good day leadership.

I wanted to give you a heads up on an important issue I just discovered today.

(b)(6)



(b)(6)



My apologies for the error. Comments and questions please.

(b)(6)

